

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
/068 W

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R 311436Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8249
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2709

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, ES, HO
SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR'S BORDER NEGOTIATING TEAM RETURNS TO LIMA

REF: SAN SALVADOR 2240

1. GOES ANNOUNCED MAY 29 THAT THE SALVADORAN DELEGATION TO THE HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR BORDER NEGOTIATION IN LIMA WILL DEPART MAY 31. FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ PORTH WILL HEAD THE DELEGATION, WITH DRS. ARTURO CASTRILLO HIDALGO AND DAVID ESCOBAR GALINDO ACCOMPANYING HIM. PQDPOSE OF THIS MEETING WILL BE FOR BOTH PARTIES TO DELIVER TO THE MEDIATOR, JOSE LUIS BUSTAMANTE Y RIVERO, THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITION CONCERNING THE BORDER DISPUTE. THE DELIVERY OF THESE DOCUMENTS WAS STIPULATED IN ARTICLE 7 OF THE CONVENTION OF MEDIATION. POINTS THAT BOTH COUNTRIES HAD AGREED UPON HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO THE MEDIATOR ON MAY 3.

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2. PRESS STATES THAT FOREIGN MINISTER RODRIGUEZ PORTH CONTINUES TO INDICATE OPTIMISM THAT THE DEFINITE SOLUTION

TO THE PROBLEM WITH HONDURAS WILL BE REACHED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. COMMENT. DESPITE PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF FOREIGN MINISTER

AND OTHER GOES OFFICIALS, THERE APPEARS TO BE GROWING CONCERN THAT SOLUTION TO BORDER DISPUTE WILL NOT BE AS EASY NOR AS QUICKLY ACCOMPLISHED AS ORIGINALLY ANTICIPATED. FOREIGN MINISTER AND MEMBERS OF NEGOTIATING TEAM HAVE INDICATED PRIVATELY TO DATT AND EMBOFFS THAT SEVERAL VERY SERIOUS OBSTACLES TO EARLY AGREEMENT HAVE SURFACED RECENTLY. ONE IS CONTENTION THAT HONDURAS NOW PROPOSES TO LAY CLAIM TO SEVERAL ISLANDS IN GULF OF FONSECA THAT SALVADORANS HAD THOUGHT GOH HAD RECOGNIZED AS BELONGING TO EL SALVADOR. SECOND POINTS IS THAT MEMBER OF GOES NEGOTIATING TEAM RECENTLY MADE TRIP TO SEVILLAN, SPAIN FOR DETAILED REVIEW OF DOCUMENTS AND HAS RETURNED WITH ALLEGED PROOF THE GOH HAD IN FACT ALTERED NAMES OF SEVERAL SMALL VILLAGES WHICH GAVE HONDURAS PORTION OF LAND GOES NOW CONTENTS RIGHTFULLY THEIRS. THESE TWO FACTORS COMBINED COULD LEAD GOES TO REOPENING OF ENTIRE BOUNDARY BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES RATHER THAN LIMITING NEGOTIATION TO SIX OR 7 SMALL POCKETS ORIGINALLY UNDER DISPUTE. DEVINE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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